



Owyhee County

September 2020

IDAHO
DEPT. OF LABOR

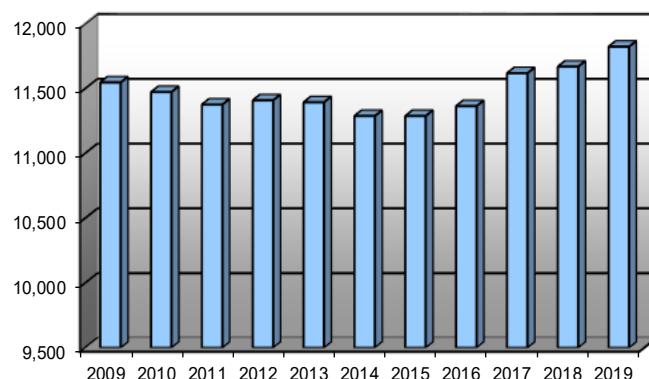
Workforce Trends

Population

Owyhee County is the second largest of Idaho's 44 counties by land area. It has one of the lowest population densities in the state, and more than three-quarters of the land is federally owned. Owyhee's population increased 2.4 percent from 2009 to 2019 to 11,823. Population grew relatively quickly leading up to the recession, but has fell between 2009 and 2015. Since then population has increased yearly to a record high in 2019. Due to the large federal land holdings and the fairly remote locations of this largely agricultural county, population growth has been slower than in most surrounding areas. Most residents live along the northern edge of the county.

Homedale, the largest city in the county, has a population of 2,720 in 2019. Marsing, another major city, population is 1,318. Grandview, the smallest, had a population of 469.

Population



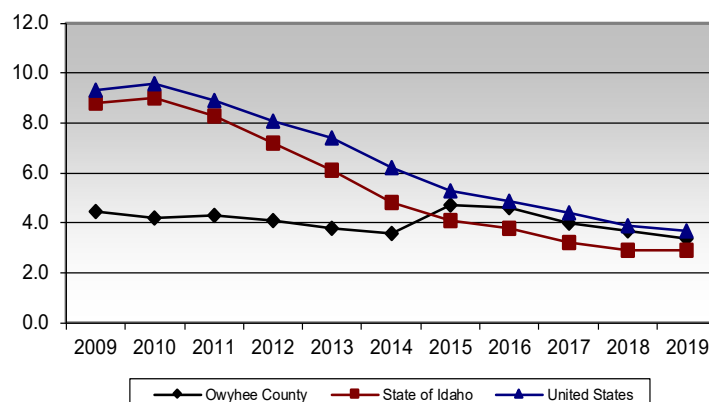
Labor Force & Employment

The average annual unemployment rate is 3.3 percent, increasing from 1.9 percent in 2007, the record low. The county maintains one of the state's lowest unemployment rates month to month, primarily due to its high concentration of employment in government and agriculture that remain relatively stable over time.

The labor force has fluctuated throughout the decade reaching its lowest level, 4,328, in 2009. In 2019 the labor force reached a record high with increases in employment. The number of unemployed continued to decline in 2019 dropping to 183.

Overall, covered employment decreased slightly in 2019, losing 15 jobs from 2018. Agriculture lost the largest number of jobs (71) while five sectors lost a small number of jobs each—manufacturing, information, financial activities, education and health services and government. Sectors that experienced significant job growth were trade, transportation and utilities, professional and business services, and leisure and hospitality.

Unemployment Rates



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Over the decade, the number of covered jobs increased by only 2. The largest increases was motor vehicle and part dealers. Other areas of growth were scientific research in the professional and business service sector and health care. Food services and drinking places also experienced significant growth since 2009.

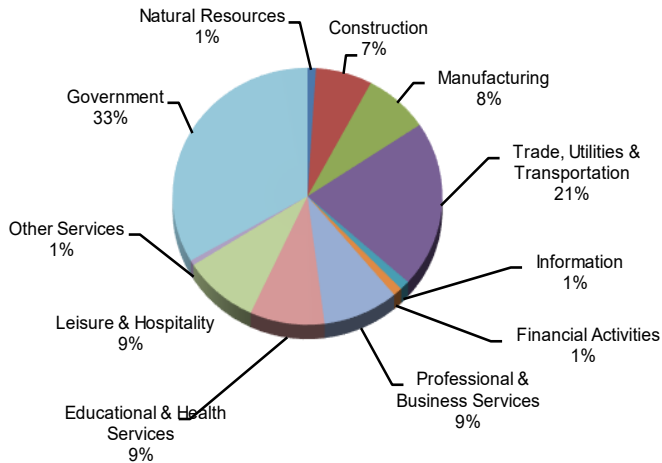
Labor Force	Aug 19	Aug 20
Civilian Labor Force	5,327	5,656
Total Employment	5,135	5,378
Unemployed	192	278
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.6	4.9
State of Idaho % Unemployed	2.9	4.2
U.S. % Unemployed	3.7	8.4

Labor Force	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Civilian Labor Force	4,328	5,051	4,888	5,104	5,121	5,018	5,215	5,289	5,304	5,411	5,434
Unemployment	193	212	212	211	197	183	245	242	211	199	183
% of Labor Force Unemployed	4.5	4.2	4.3	4.1	3.8	3.6	4.7	4.6	4.0	3.7	3.4
Employment	4,135	4,839	4,676	4,893	4,924	4,835	4,970	5,047	5,093	5,212	5,251

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Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2019



Per Capita Income, Nonfarm Jobs & Wages

Owyhee County ranked 42nd in per capita income unchanged from 2017 with \$33,372 in 2018. Even with an increase of nearly \$1,053 the county was 76 percent of the state's average and 61 percent of the national average.

Agriculture makes up the largest portion—34 percent—of covered employment. Government is the second largest at 22 percent.

Covered wages experienced a slight decrease from 2018, down \$85, a 0.2 percent decrease. The drop in wages in agriculture and construction were the reason. The good news was that they have increase 50.2 percent, \$11,771, in the last 10 years.

Major Employers

Albertsons
Bruneau-Grandview School District
Canyon Owyhee School Service Agency
Homedale School District
Homedale Rural Fire Protection District
Marsing Agricultural Labor Sponsoring Committee
Marsing School District
Owyhee County
Owyhee Health & Rehabilitation Center
US Ecology Idaho
Vance Dairy Construction Inc

Boise City MSA Occupational Wages*	Entry Wage	Median Wage
Agricultural Equipment Operator	\$17.15	\$19.25
Bookkeeping, Accounting & Auditing Clerks	\$12.71	\$19.61
Farmworkers & Laborers, Crop	\$10.67	\$12.65
Industrial Truck & Tractor Operators (Forklift)	\$13.70	\$18.09
Heavy Equipment Operator	\$16.97	\$22.22
Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers	\$11.49	\$15.53
Licensed Practical Nurse	\$18.89	\$22.97
Maintenance Workers, Machinery	\$17.14	\$25.42
Secretaries & Administrative Assistants	\$12.87	\$17.17
Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	\$15.94	\$22.85
Waiter & Waitress	\$8.59	\$11.30

* Additional occupational wage data can be found on the Idaho Department of Labor website at <https://imi.idaho.gov/oes>

Covered Employment & Average Annual Wages Per Job for 2009, 2018 & 2019	2009		2018		2019	
	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages
Total Covered Wages	3,159	\$23,438	3,176	\$35,294	3,161	\$35,209
Agriculture	1,366	\$19,202	1,157	\$40,082	1,087	\$36,357
Mining	17	\$57,719	15	\$49,789	21	\$57,828
Construction	104	\$30,326	137	\$34,645	142	\$34,167
Manufacturing	136	\$30,763	170	\$42,527	163	\$44,671
Trade, Utilities & Transportation	322	\$28,407	406	\$39,185	438	\$38,899
Information	23	\$33,776	26	\$33,755	24	\$33,516
Financial Activities	22	\$26,120	30	\$50,185	23	\$55,255
Professional and Business Services	143	\$39,262	165	\$45,255	188	\$55,499
Educational and Health Services	132	\$22,714	190	\$23,679	185	\$27,349
Leisure and Hospitality	157	\$8,858	176	\$11,608	189	\$12,438
Other Services	10	\$19,423	13	\$24,320	13	\$26,938
Government	728	\$25,871	692	\$29,491	688	\$30,722

Per Capita Income	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Owyhee County	\$19,543	\$25,663	\$28,483	\$29,417	\$30,047	\$33,339	\$33,948	\$34,569	\$32,319	\$33,372
State of Idaho	\$31,186	\$31,957	\$33,515	\$35,188	\$36,200	\$37,896	\$39,857	\$40,670	\$42,094	\$43,901
United States	\$39,284	\$40,546	\$42,735	\$44,599	\$44,851	\$47,058	\$48,978	\$49,870	\$51,885	\$54,446

Information provided by Bureau of Economic Analysis

This county is served by the offices listed below:

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This publication is produced by the Idaho Department of Labor and is funded at least in part by federal grants from the U.S. Department of Labor. Costs associated with this publication are available upon request. The Idaho Department of Labor is an equal opportunity employer and service provider. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Dial 711 for Idaho Relay Service.